

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has required election of one of the following species: DEF, Mannitol, methionine, and histidine, in the above-identified application.

Accordingly, Applicants hereby elect the species of Mannitol for continued examination. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9-21, 23, 25, 26 and 28-40 read on the elected species.

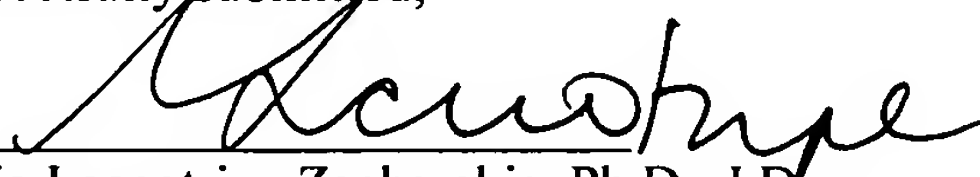
As acknowledged by the Examiner, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141 *et seq.*

**CONCLUSION**

If a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would help expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Dated: March 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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